

NEWS MEDIA CONTACT: Ben Williams, (865) 576-0885 http://www.oakridge.doe.gov **September 30, 2011**

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY COMPLETES DEMOLITION OF K-33 BUILDING

Largest Completed Demo Project in Oak Ridge History

OAK RIDGE, Tenn. - - The U.S. Department of Energy's Oak Ridge Environmental Management (EM) program recently completed its largest demolition project to date. The removal of K-33, a former gaseous diffusion uranium enrichment facility spanning 32-acres, was completed several months ahead of schedule. The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funded the \$51 million project.

"The expedited removal of K-33 significantly changes our site's landscape, and moves DOE closer to transitioning the East Tennessee Technology Park into a private industrial park," said EM Assistant Manager John Eschenberg.

Constructed in 1954, the facility enriched uranium for defense and naval fleet purposes until 1985. A majority of the decontamination and decommissioning was performed in 1997, but the current project removed siding, demolished the building to the slab, and packaged and transported all associated debris to the Environmental Management Waste Management Facility (EMWMF). K-33's demolition is the latest effort to convert the East Tennessee Technology Park (ETTP) into a private industrial park. To date, the EM program has eliminated significant legacy wastes and almost 250 hazardous or unneeded facilities at ETTP.

K-33's demolition finished five months ahead of schedule, and debris removal was completed Sept. 21, three months ahead of schedule. During the nine-month project, 164,000 tons of steel and concrete, accounting for 13,000 shipments, were disposed to the EMWMF.

LATA-Sharp Remediation Services, LLC, conducted the K-33 demolition project.

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Photo available by calling the ORO Public Affairs Office at (865) 576-0885.

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